

**The Malaria Research Group, Post-graduate Institute for Medical Research and Training University of Ibadan, Nigeria. Dr. Grace O Gbotosho.**

The malaria research group conducted a 3-year multidisciplinary project under the leadership of Dr. O. Oladepo (Project ID 980080). The study aimed at establishing a framework for application of research tools to provide information for malaria control and policy. Specifically, the team set out to develop a kit for the rapid assessment of parasite resistance to chloroquine based on the reversal phenomenon, conduct surveillance of sensitivity of malaria infections to standard anti-malarial drugs in the Southwest Nigeria, to establish a mechanism for the utilising sensitivity data in control policy of Oyo state. A 28-day follow up protocol was used in 6 hospital and community sites for the evaluation of CQ and SP efficacy. This group has the capacity for *in vitro* test, molecular biology and pharmacokinetics (HPLC). However, there is a need for human resource development to continue these activities. Dr Gbotosho was nominated to lead the research activities of the anti-malaria drug resistant network.

**Study Sites**

The study will be conducted in 2 sites (1 urban and 1 rural) in South-western Nigeria during the first year of the project. The rural community study would be conducted at Olode Adetoun village in Ona-ara Local Government Area of Oyo State, while the urban studies would be conducted at the Adeoyo Maternity Hospital, Ibadan and the Malaria Research Clinic of the University College Hospital Ibadan. Both sites are located in the tropical rain forest zone where malaria transmission is intense throughout the year with a peak occurring between June and September.

Olode Adetoun village is a rural community with a population of about 3000 (1990 census). The inhabitants are predominantly farmers that have settled around their farmland. The village is located 30km on the outskirts of the city of Ibadan, while both Adeoyo Maternity Hospital and the Malaria Research Clinic are located within the metropolis of Ibadan city. The selected rural site for this study is one of the sentinel sites being used by the National Malaria Control Programme and the WHO-AFRO in an effort to monitor the spread of drug resistance in Nigeria.

**Team Composition:**

<b>Principal Investigator</b>	<b>G. Gbotosho</b>
<b>Co-Principal Investigator</b>	C. Falade
<b>Molecular Markers</b>	C. Happi A. Olukosi O. Folarin
<b>Pharmacokinetics</b>	S. Gbotosho A. Sijuade
<b>In vitro Assay</b>	O. Oduola A. Ganiyu
<b>Clinical Assessment</b>	A. Falade A. Lgunju
<b>Data manager</b>	O. Bello
<b>Safety Officer</b>	M. Falade